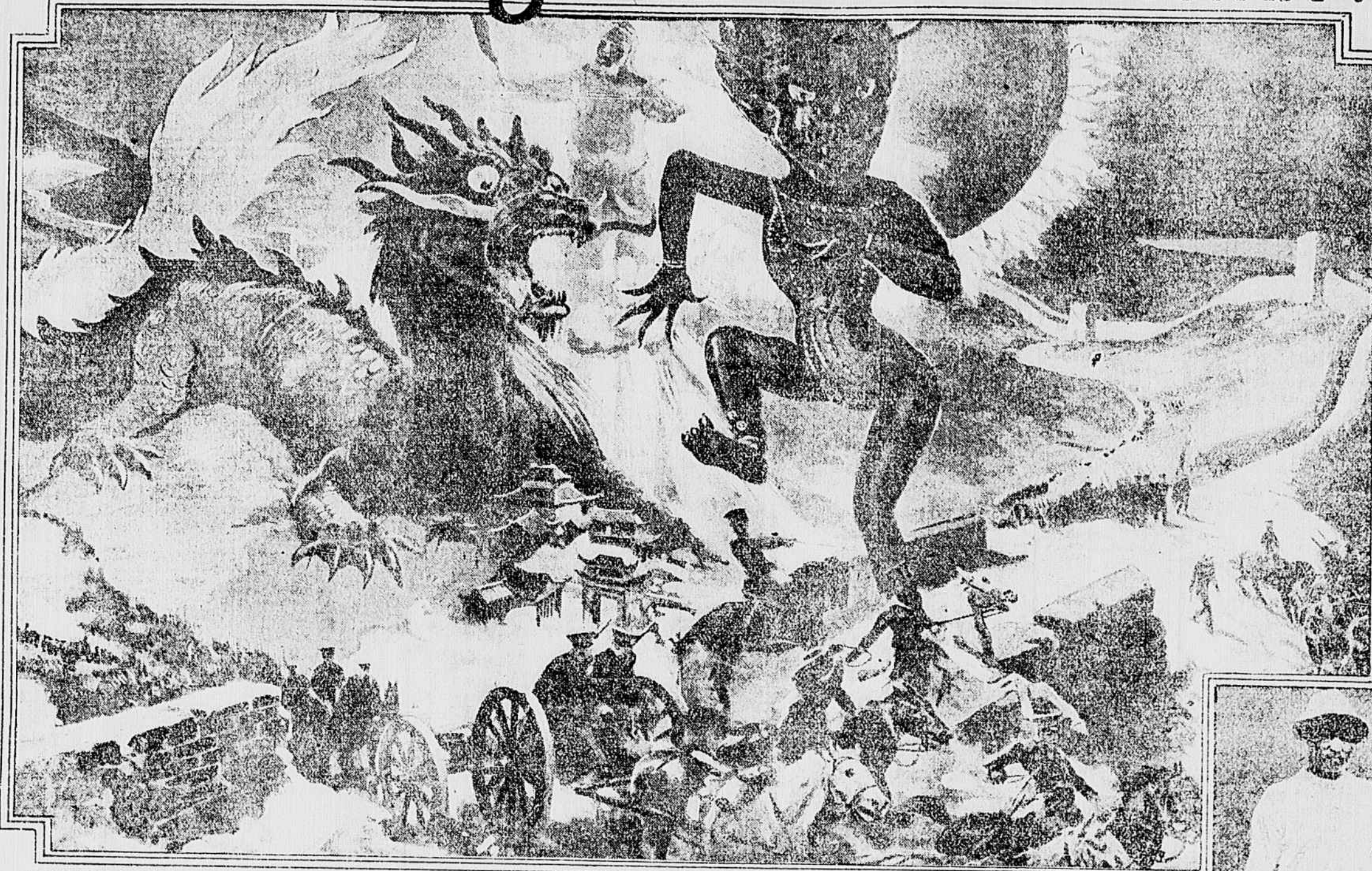


A Great English Thinker's Solemn Warning of O



AWAKENED ASIA.—The Extraordinary Prophetic Painting by Rene Lelong, Which Was Published in England and Excited Country-Wide Interest Before Her Alliance with Japan. Here Are Shown the Yellow Hordes of the East Moving Toward Christendom, While the War Deities of China, Japan and India Hover Over Them.

By H. M. HYNDMAN, the Noted English Writer and Philosopher

THE change in the relations between Europe and Asia in the last thirty years has been so marked, and yet so rapid, that we scarcely understand the effect which has been produced already, and will be still more noticeable in the near future.

One result of this terrible war, ending, as it must, in the serious weakening of all the European Powers which have possessions in the eastern continent, will be to increase the relative power of Asia and to secure for her, at an earlier date, that greater influence in world policy which she would have obtained later in any event.

We are slowly returning, it would seem, to something near the estimate of Asiatic importance which was formed by the old voyagers and ambassadors. After 400 years of successful commerce, piracy and conquest, from the date of the foundation of the short-lived Portuguese Empire of Goa, in 1503, the tide is now turning in favor of the older civilizations, China, Japan and India, with a population nearly double that of all Europe, including Russia, can no longer be regarded as the happy hunting ground for adventurous individuals, or grasping nations of the white race.

This possibility has long presented itself to the more far-sighted politicians. In the early fifties Mr. W. H. Steward, whose statesman-like management of the Trent affair averted war between England and America ten years later, directed the attention of his countrymen to China as the empire which would play a decisive part in the destinies of the human race. During the Franco-Prussian war of 1870 Sir Henry Maine conjured up a vision of 40,000,000 Chinese, raised, trained and armed as barbarians to try conclusions with them in an Armageddon of the East.

But this was far from being the common view. Even now, most European nations think and act as if their present superiority could be maintained permanently, in spite of all recent developments on the shores of the Pacific Ocean. It is interesting to compare this arrogance with the attitude of the English, the French, the Dutch and Portuguese three centuries ago, and even far more recently, toward the Indian and Chinese rulers of their day.

Certainly the present scarcely veiled contempt and rudeness of my own countrymen in India itself to Indians is the growth of little more than two generations. Earlier records bear witness to a much better tone than that which prevails today. Even during this great war, when Indians of high rank and long descent are fighting side by side with English officers, for the same cause, they have been treated with great rudeness. Color prejudice has become the rule, and is growing stronger as Englishmen reside less and less in India and more and more lose touch with Indians.

It was for a long period much the same with China. That great people whose civilization and power pervaded the whole east for centuries and spread to Africa, to whom we are indebted—even more than we are to India—for the ideas, discoveries and inventions which underlie our own material development and moral conceptions, were approached by Europeans, in the earlier stages of their intercourse, as a race in many respects more capable and more powerful than themselves.

Not until we English discovered that the

whole of these intelligent 400,000,000 of Chinamen were organized solely for industry and peace, possessing no armies in the least capable of resisting aggression, did we resort to the truculent brutality which so shamefully forced the sale of opium upon the country in the face of the protests of its government; a policy fully illustrated by the seizure of Hongkong and the sacking of the Winter Palace.

Our missionaries' claims for the infinite superiority of their Asiatic religion, which made no impression upon the Chinese at all in proportion to their own efforts or to the risks which this country had to run on their behalf to protect them, afforded further evidence of European arrogance. They did not disguise their low opinion of the Chinese cult, nor did they, like the Catholics, adapt themselves in dress and daily life to the customs of the people.

Even the late Lord Salisbury, a devotee of Christianity, complained of their inconceivable ardor and unscrupulous methods of proselytism. The wonder is not that their conduct at times influenced popular hatred against them, but that they should have been allowed to continue in China at all.

In the same way, having discovered that Li Hung Chang, the real author of the ruinous Japanese war, was as unscrupulous in diplomacy as he was dishonest in finance, we assume that all Mandarins are of similar character. Yet the great majority of the literati who govern China are beyond reproach in money matters, and the integrity of Chinese men of business and commanders has long been the admiration of the East.

All this time, too, the kidnapping of Chinamen in the great cities was going on as a regular business. The horrors of the baracoons of Macao, in which these coolies were stored before being shipped off for life-long toil and torture, were only equalled by the fate awaiting these unfortunates when they were landed as hopeless slaves on the Guano Islands, off the coast of Peru. There they had no hope of humane treatment nor of any external interference on their behalf. Protected by the Chinese Government were as unavailing in this matter as in the case of the importation of opium. The old chattel slaves at Laurium or in Sicily, the modern victims of Russian tyranny in the mines of Eastern Siberia, never suffered from more frightful cruelty than did these harmless Asiatics, forced to work themselves to death amid an atmosphere which it was a pain even to breathe.

Yet the first evidence of the latent power of Asia's hundreds of millions of inhabitants came from the industrial countrymen of those sufferers in quite a peaceful way. I visited Australia for the first time nearly fifty years ago. At that time Little Bourke street was one of the shows of Melbourne. There I saw Chinamen with their great broad hats and rough Asiatic petticoat garb lying sandwiched on trays, to sleep head and tail like herrings in a barrel. How they continued to exist in such a confined space, packed together as they were, was a mystery. But exist they did. Moreover, they contrived to make a good living out of washing for gold on diggings abandoned by white men, out of laundry work, which they did better than anybody else, by growing vegetables in that dry and thirsty

land where no one else could then make a success of market gardening, and, lastly, by competing with Europeans in certain trades and for rough work.

This last it was which brought them into difficulty. For the Chinamen not only worked long hours, but, living on a lower standard of life than their white competitors, they were able to underbid them in the matter of wages, to an extent which threatened to drive European labor out of some occupations altogether. This might be all very well for capitalists, who were accused then and thereafter of fostering the trade in the importation of Chinese coolies in order to keep down the demands of their own working countrymen and make more profit for themselves. But it did not suit the views of the Caucasian wage earners at all. They soon learned that competition of this kind could not be met in the ordinary way.

I made up my mind on this, then, and I am as firmly convinced of it now. Under the system of capitalist production and competition for wages, regulated, in the main, by the standard of life in various trades, Europeans, even in a temperate climate, cannot hold their own, in the long run, with these hard-working Asiatics; in the tropics they have no chance at all against industrious coolies from the southern provinces of China.

In the Sandwich Islands also I found them in considerable numbers, not only on the sugar estates, but in the towns. The same, of course, in California. There the feeling against "the heathen Chinese" was even stronger than in Australia. Chinatown in San Francisco, with its practically self-governing community and underground communications, was already an extraordinary development for an American city.

In 1879 the Government of the United States yielded to the pressure brought to bear from the Pacific slope, fearing the serious trouble which might have arisen between the races had the Chinese immigration into California continued at its then rate. It is impossible for anyone who saw what was going on to deny that the white workers had a strong case.

It was no doubt contrary to all international rule and order that Americans should claim the right to travel, trade and settle freely in China, and yet that the Chinese, quite as industrious workers and fully as competent merchants in their own line as Americans, should be excluded from the United States. Moreover, the law became operative a few years after the Chinese had been of great service in the development of California and the other States of the Pacific coast.

But the thing was done. After the passage of that enactment, the Chinese were shut out from North America and the Australasian colonies. A little later British Indians were liable to a heavy fine for landing in Australia and the embargo of one hundred pounds sterling on the famous fast-pool cricketer Ranjitsingh, the Jam of Ramnagar, was removed by special ordinance of the Parliament in the colonies where he was to play. It would have been better had this Indian of the most ancient lineage in the whole of Hindostan refused to be thus exceptionally favored. However, the fact that British Indians should be thus treated in the British Empire proves that the prejudice against Asiatics was and is by no means confined to the dislike of the Chinese.

But the new movement in Asia which may yet have a tremendous influence on the whole world, began in a manner to be appreciated by Europeans, not in India or China, but in the island kingdom of Japan.

In forty years an almost unknown country outside the sphere of international affairs, has passed from a belated feudalism to a highly developed capitalism—a transition which it took us English four centuries to accomplish. Japan has assimilated with marvellous intuition the most effective portions of European civilization and has established itself as one of the great powers of the world.

The entire transformation came as a surprise even to many Europeans who were well acquainted with the peoples of the Far East. The first clear evidence that a new factor had appeared in the struggle for the control of the Pacific Ocean, and all which this implies, was afforded when, in her war with China, Japan crushed that huge empire with a rapidity and completeness that left nothing to chance.

By the use of European ships and European appliances, with a skillful adaptation of European discipline and military methods, Japan defeated the Chinese as hopelessly as any European power could have done. The acquisition of the island of Formosa, the claim of large "spheres of influence" on the adjacent mainland, and the demand for a heavy money indemnity at the peace of Simonsaki (1895) showed the whole east that the most modern ideas of extension of territory and commercial control had been combined with all the persistence and astuteness which Asiatics admittedly possess. Yet so slow were we to appreciate the changed conditions that, when the war began, it was quite commonly believed, not only in the west but in the east, that the "little Japan" had undertaken a task far beyond their capacity, and that the huge, unwieldy bulk of China, controlled by the imposing figure of Li Hung Chang, would overwhelm the adventurous islanders.

Even when the war was over, and the victors had gathered in their spoils, Europe still failed to appreciate the significance of what had occurred. The contempt for Japan with which the Chinese had contrived to imbue foreigners in the treaty ports along their coast faded slowly. That contempt did not trouble the Japanese and their rulers at all. They had decided upon a definite policy and they proceeded to carry it out without haste and without rest.

As they became more closely intimate with Europeans they decided that they were people to use and not to be used. English, American

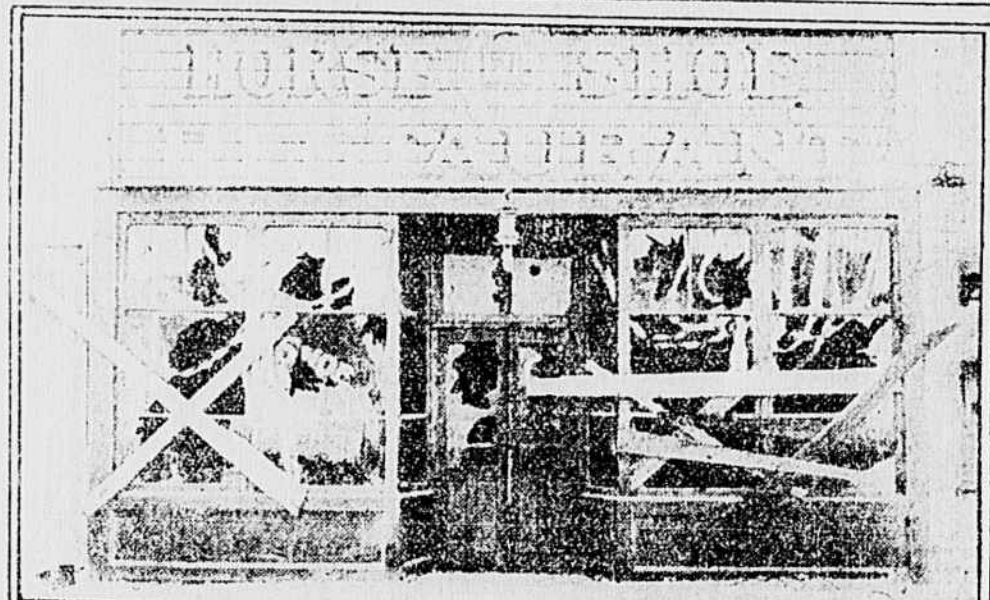
Hyndman, Noted English Thinker, Warns of the Alliances of the Fratricidal War in the Struggle With

ONE of the most remarkable warnings concerning Japan's ambition for world-dominance and the reality of the "Yellow Peril" to the United States is contained in the accompanying article by Mr. H. M. Hyndman, the noted English writer and philosopher. The warning is all the more convincing because Mr. Hyndman rather sympathizes with Asiatics generally, on account of the arrogance with which he considers they have been treated by Europeans.

The conclusion of his interesting argument is that the most important outcome of the present war will be to place Japan in a position to challenge the supremacy of Europe and America.

In the first place, he shows most interestingly how Europeans for centuries, by exploiting and insulting Asiatics, aroused their enmity and then awakened them to modern methods. Japan, keener than the others, saw the necessity of acquiring military efficiency on the European model. Commodore Perry's forcible

visit to the islands of Japan had led to the efficient for her deal with the port and taken to Slope. This treaty, subject to power's emergence, strong English devoted vanced a grade



Types of Japanese Laborers on the Pacific Coast, of Whom Mr. Hyndman Says, "Two Hundred Thousand Japanese, Mostly Trained Soldiers, Have Taken the Place of the Chinese on the Pacific Slope." Below is a Photograph of a Japanese Place of Business Destroyed During One of the Last Anti-Japanese Riots in San Francisco. Any Such Occurrence, Mr. Hyndman Points Out, Will Be Sufficient Pretext for Japan to Declare War on Us.

and other merchants dealing with Japan soon found out that they were face to face with artificers, manufacturers and traders who were as efficient in the field of industrial and mercantile competition as they had proved themselves in warfare. Japanese raised money in Europe, built vessels in Europe, ordered machinery in Europe, sent students to Europe and America. But all with one object: to displace as soon as possible with European and American aid and to rival the white men in every department of human effort.

Capitalism of the most ruthless description, controlling perhaps the cheapest and most easily trained labor on the planet, obtained complete domination of the Japanese workers who were handled from the commencement as the German working class have been handled to further the projects of their government. As far as social conditions were concerned, Japanese statesmen, so careful to make use of the most perfect scientific knowledge for the benefit of their troops, have been quite indifferent to western legislation in favor of their new wage-earning class. The Chinese were organized by peace for peace; the Japanese were organized by war for war.

They proved this to demonstration in their war against Russia, which was their next serious step toward the attainment of the position at which they aimed. Even then, there were still Europeans who failed to estimate their chances of success aright. Whether by refusing to entertain proposals of peace and holding on after the battle of Mukden, Russia could have worn Japan out need not now be discussed. The Treaty of Portsmouth settled that. Thus, in a manner which could not be explained away, the Russian Empire, long the dread of Western Europe, was thoroughly beaten by a comparatively small Asiatic State, and Japan became still more formidable on the mainland as well as upon the ocean.

The final addition of Korea to the Japanese possessions, in 1910, gave the Mikado a total

1921. Even at the objects of the preamble of Eastern preservation of Powers in China and integrity of principle of commerce and industry. The maintenance parties in the India and the India in the said region. Remembering to all appearance by upholding a broad language interpretation of that, namely, in able support of Indian rising, and voided.

Article 11, in case of war, more than one of writing, act of England in swept Germany. But when the Lansdowne son of 1905, while still going on, overlooked some arrangement which country interest future.

However, that these serious Japan on at least in the Far East, reason to maintain then we are at 1921, and probably at us in the